

Message Text

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TO USDOC WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 2132

KUWAIT AND TEHRAN PASS TO INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE
SERVICES CORP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, SY

SUBJECT: HIGHWAY ENGINEERING PERSONNEL

1. THE GENERAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (RODCO), A SYRIAN STATE CORPORATION RESPONSIBLE FOR BUILDING ROADS AND HIGHWAYS IN THE COUNTRY, HAS INFORMED EMBASSY IT NEEDS TO EMPLOY SIX FOREIGN SPECIALISTS: (A) CHIEF ENGINEER, WITH AT LEAST 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION; (B) SOIL AND FOUNDATIONS EXPERT; (C) TOPOGRAPHICAL ENGINEER; (D) BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT AND ASPHALT LAYER EXPERT; (E) BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION EXPERT; AND (F) CONSTRUCTION PLANNING EXPERT.

2. ACCORDING TO RODCO NOTICE, FOREIGN ENGINEERS WOULD BE FORMED INTO TWO GROUPS (WORKING WITH SYRIAN ENGINEERS) TO SUPERVISE HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. EMPLOYMENT WILL LAST UNTIL 1980; LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS (IN HOMES) AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: USDOC BRING THIS REQUEST FOR ENGINEERING PERSONNEL TO ATTENTION OF US FIRMS CAPABLE OF AND INTERESTED IN SUPPLYING SUCH EXPERTS ON CONTRACT BASIS. RODCO PREFERS THAT ENGINEERS BE AVAILABLE FOR WORK IN SYRIA BY MAY 21, 1976. INTERESTED FIRMS AND/OR INDIVIDUALS SHOULD SEND PARTICULARS,
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 02132 081528Z

INCLUDING QUALIFICATIONS AND SALARIES REQUESTED, TO MR.

SALAH ASKAR, GENERAL DIRECTOR, GENERAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, HOMS, SYRIA.

4. COMMENT: RODCO IS ONE OF SEVEN PUBLIC SECTOR CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES RESPONSIBLE TO THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES (AN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER). IT IS IN EFFECT THE CONSTRUCTION ARM OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, UNDER WHOSE JURISDICTION FALL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ROADS AND HIGHWAYS. IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC SECTOR COMPANIES, SARG REQUIRES THEM TO BID ON ALL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS WITHIN THEIR COMPETENCE AND CAPACITIES; PRIVATE SECTOR CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES MAY BID ON SUCH PROJECTS ONLY WHEN PUBLIC COMPANIES ARE UNINTERESTED. PUBLIC SECTOR COMPANIES MAY COMPETE DIRECTLY WITH FOREIGN FIRMS ON PROJECTS LET TO FOREIGN TENDER. SYRIA HAS A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF HIGHWAY PROJECTS ON THE DRAWING BOARDS; HENCE THE NEED FOR RODCO TO GO OUTSIDE SYRIA TO STRENGTHEN ITS ENGINEERING STAFF.
MURPHY

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